

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-23 are pending in this application. Claims 21-23 are added. Claims 1, 13, and 16 are amended. Claims 1, 13, 16, and 21-23 are independent.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Priority Under 35 U.S.C. §119

The Examiner has acknowledged Applicants' claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

Drawings

It is respectfully submitted that the drawings filed with the present application comply with USPTO requirements, and the Examiner is requested to provide a Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, Form PTO-948, with the next official communication.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5, 15, and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base and any intervening claims.

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Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter. Added claims 21-23 present the subject matter of claims 5, 15, and 18 in independent form. Withdrawal of the objection is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-4, 6-14, 16, 17, 19, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,070,799 to Ashe. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the rejections, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, independent claim 1 is amended to recite a combination of steps in a method for protecting disc copy, including detecting an identifier of a disc to be reproduced and determining whether a disc copy is permitted based on the identifier being listed in copy-protection disc information.

Independent claim 13 is amended to recite a combination of steps in a method for protecting disc copy, including detecting track information from a disc, creating and saving a unique identifier based on the detected track information of the disc for distinguishing the disc from other discs, and determining whether a disc copy is permitted based on the identifier being listed in copy-protection disc information

Independent claim 16 is amended to recite a combination of elements in a recording/reproducing apparatus having a disc copy-protection function, including a reproducing drive for reading data from a disc, the data including an identifier of the disc, a recording drive for writing data on another disc, storage means for storing copy-protection

disc information, and control means for controlling a disc copy from the disc in the reproducing drive to the other disc in the recording drive based on whether the identifier is listed in the copy-protection disc information.

In contrast to Applicants' claimed invention, Ashe is directed to a method of copy protection, where a reader 30 reads digital information and sends a copy classification code, as well as a title ID code, along with additional information to a digital copy protection processor 32, as shown in FIG. 3. The title ID code identifies the digital information, and the copy classification code indicates to a recorder whether it is prohibited from making copies, permitted to make only a single copy, or does not restrict the number of copies to be made. Ashe does not teach or suggest whether a disk copy is permitted based on the identifier being listed in copy-protection disc information as required by the claims of the present invention.

It is respectfully submitted that the combinations of steps and elements set forth in amended independent claims 1, 13, and 16 are not anticipated by the prior art of record, including Ashe, and that independent claims 1, 13, and 16 and the claims depending therefrom, as well as independent claims 21-23, are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal are requested of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Conclusion

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner has not been utilized to reject claims, but merely to show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

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All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If any issues remain, however, the Examiner is invited to telephone Sam Bhattacharya, Reg. No. 48,107, at (703) 205-8000 in an effort to expedite prosecution.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,
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MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 11, as follows:

The identifier stored in the lookup table of the copy-protected disc table storage 114 comprises an Nth track number (NT(N)) 301, a starting address (StAdd(N)) 302 of Nth track, an [N+M(M 0)th] N+M(M≠0)th track number (NT(N+M)) 303, a starting address (StAdd(N+M)) 304 of (N+M)th track, an [N+P(P M, P 0)th] N+P(P≠M, P≠0)th track number (NT(N+P)) 305, and a starting address (StAdd(N+P)) 306 of (N+P)th track.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 14, as follows:

For example, the identifier of the disc comprises an Nth track number (NT(N)) 301, a starting address (StAdd(N)) 302 of Nth track, an [N+M(M 0)th] N+M(M≠0)th track number (NT(N+M)) 303, a starting address (StAdd(N+M)) 304 of (N+M)th track, an [N+P(P M, P 0)th] N+P(P≠M, P≠0)th track number (NT(N+P)) 305, and a starting address (StAdd(N+P)) 306 of (N+P)th track as shown in FIG. 3.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 13, and 16 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for protecting disc copy comprising the steps of:

detecting an identifier of a disc to be reproduced; and

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determining [if] whether a disc copy is permitted [or not using copy protection] based on the identifier being listed in copy-protection disc information [and the identifier].

13. (Amended) A method for creating copy-protection disc information comprising the steps of:

detecting track information from a disc; and

creating and saving a unique identifier based on the detected track information of the disc for distinguishing the disc from other discs; and

determining whether a disc copy is permitted based on the identifier being listed in copy-protection disc information.

16. (Amended) A recording/reproducing apparatus having a disc copy-protection function comprising:

a reproducing drive for reading data from a disc, the data including an identifier of the disc;

a recording drive for writing data on [other] another disc;

storage means for storing [a] copy-protection disc information [for judging whether a disc copy is permitted or not]; and

control means for controlling a disc copy from the disc in the reproducing drive to the other disc in the recording drive based on whether the identifier is listed in the copy-protection disc information.

Please **add claims 21-23** as follows:

-- **21.** A method for protecting disc copy comprising the steps of:

detecting an identifier of a disc to be reproduced; and

determining if a disc copy is permitted or not using copy protection disc information and the identifier,

wherein the identifier comprises an Nth track number (NT(N)), a starting address (StAdd(N)) of Nth track, an $N+M(M \neq 0)$ th track number (NT(N+M)), a starting address (StAdd(N+M)) of (N+M)th track, an $N+P(P \neq M, P \neq 0)$ th track number (NT(N+P)), and a starting address (StAdd(N+P)) of (N+P)th track.

22. A method for creating copy-protection disc information comprising the steps of:

detecting track information from a disc; and

creating and saving a unique identifier of the disc for distinguishing the disc from other discs,

wherein the identifier comprises track numbers and track addresses, and the track information comprises an Nth track number (NT(N)), a starting address (StAdd(N)) of Nth track, an $N+M(M \neq 0)$ th track number (NT(N+M)), a starting address (StAdd(N+M)) of (N+M)th track, an $N+P(P \neq M, P \neq 0)$ th track number (NT(N+P)), and a starting address (StAdd(N+P)) of (N+P)th track.

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23. A recording/reproducing apparatus having a disc copy-protection function comprising:

a reproducing drive for reading data from a disc;

a recording drive for writing data on other disc;

storage means for storing a copy-protection disc information for judging whether a disc copy is permitted or not; and

control means for controlling a disc copy from the disc in the reproducing drive to the other disc in the recording drive,

wherein the copy-protection disc information comprises track numbers and track addresses read from the disc in the reproducing drive, and the copy-protection disc information comprises an Nth track number ($NT(N)$), a starting address ($StAdd(N)$) of Nth track, an $N+M(M \neq 0)$ th track number ($NT(N+M)$), a starting address ($StAdd(N+M)$) of $(N+M)$ th track, an $N+P(P \neq M, P \neq 0)$ th track number ($NT(N+P)$), and a starting address ($StAdd(N+P)$) of $(N+P)$ th track. --